

Isle Royale National Park Cultural Resources Management Plan



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Midwest Region



Lake Superior Context...and the Great Storm of 1913

Isle Royale CRMP: Purpose & Need

- The purpose of this Cultural Resources Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement is to develop a long-term comprehensive strategy for managing the cultural resources of Isle Royale National Park.
- The plan will set priorities for the management of Isle Royale cultural resources and identify future research needs.
- The plan tiers from the 1998 *Isle Royale Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* and will be consistent with wilderness management planning for the park.

Isle Royale NPS History: Beginnings

- 1931: Congress passes enabling legislation
 - Authorizes purchase of entire archipelago including all privately held parcels of land.
- 1931-1940
 - Isle Royale Commission uses this time to negotiate purchase agreements with individual land owners.
 - Life-Lease agreements struck at this time. Allowed for temporary use of federal properties in return for reduced purchase price.
- 1940: Isle Royale formally established as a NP.
 - This follows closure of all purchase agreements.

Isle Royale NPS History: WILDERNESS ACT

- 1964: Congress passes Wilderness Act
 - Federal agencies take stock of their holdings with respect to Wilderness qualities and how best to preserve them.
- 1976: Isle Royale Wilderness designation
 - Distinctions made between Wilderness (132,018 acres), Non-Wilderness (1,677 acres) and Potential Wilderness (93 acres). TOTAL island acreage: 133,788.
 - In most cases, Potential Wilderness is reserved for locations with temporary “non-conforming uses” that precluded immediate Wilderness designation.

WILDERNESS ACT: Implications

- Isle Royale's wilderness designation is a key consideration for planning at the park. The CRMP will be consistent with the park's Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan and will manage cultural resources in light of their presence in and adjacent to designated wilderness.



Crystal Cove

Wilderness Designations (EAST)

Legend

Non-Wilderness (NW)

Potential Wilderness (PW)

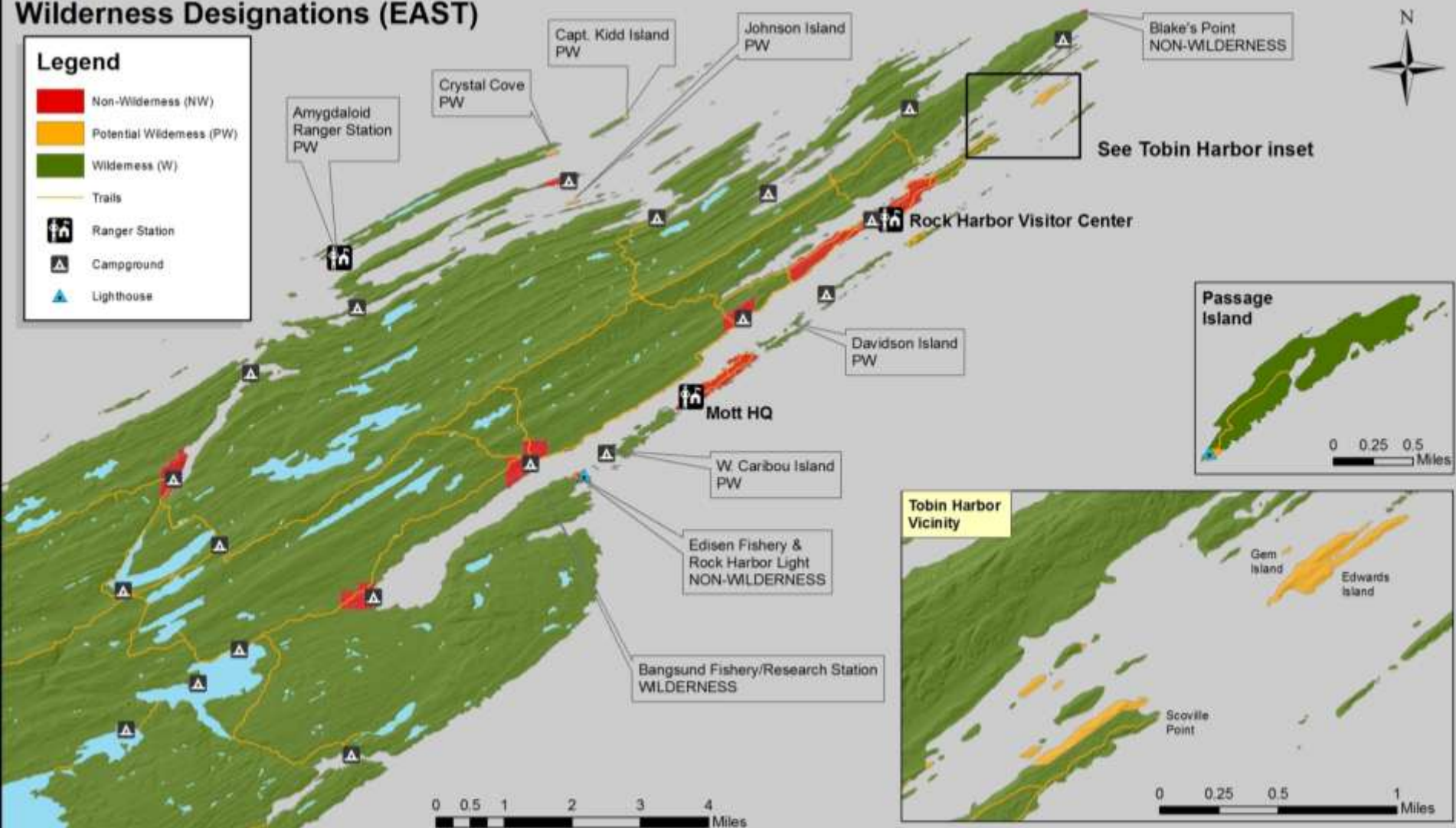
Wilderness (W)

Trails

Ranger Station

Campground

Lighthouse



Wilderness Designations (WEST)

Legend

Non-Wilderness (NW)

Potential Wilderness (PW)

Wilderness (W)

Trails

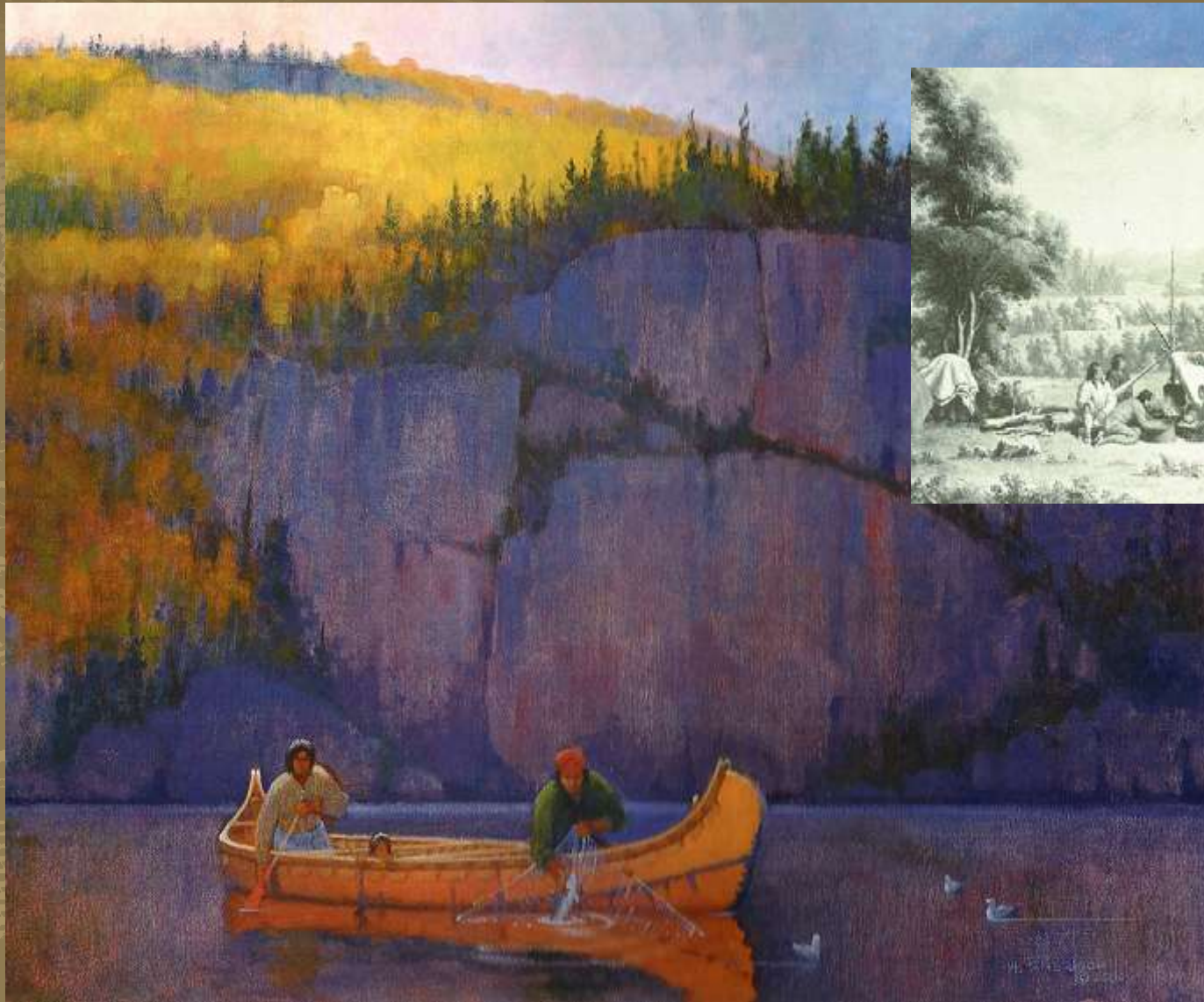
Ranger Station

campsite point

lighthouses point



Native American Cultures: Anishinaabeg



Painting by
Howard Sivertson

Native American Cultures: Archaic and Woodland



Calcite Copper



Hammerstone

Archaic and Woodland Cultures



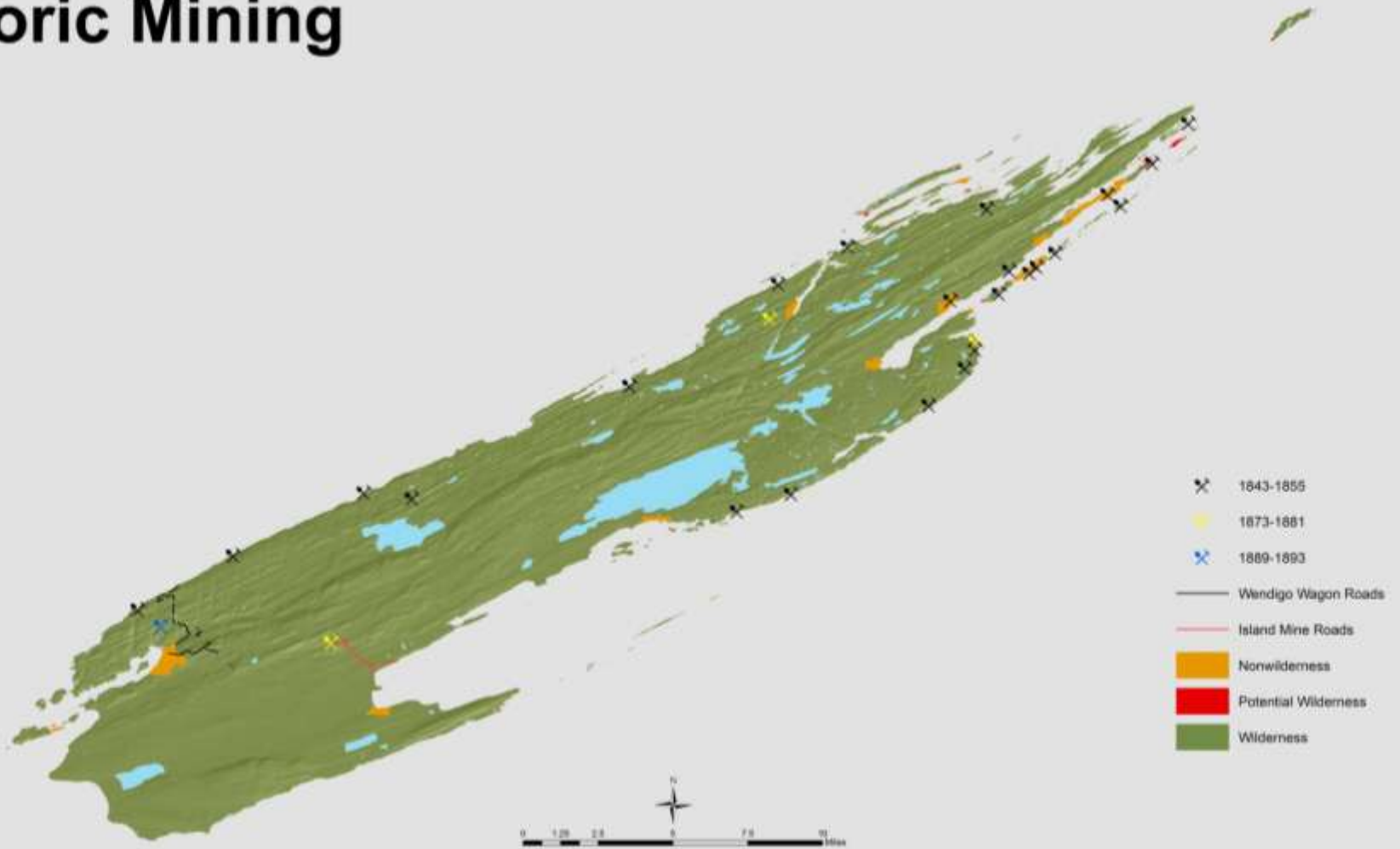
Archeological Excavation: Washington Harbor

Copper Knife



Woodland Pottery

Historic Mining



Historic Period: Industrial Mining

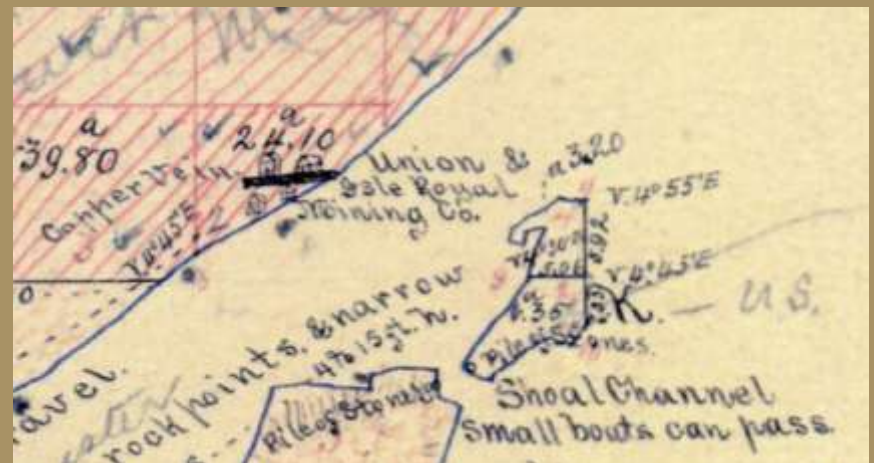


IR & Ohio Mine (Daisy Farm): 1847-1849



Courtesy of Bentley Historical Library

Siskowit Mine Bunkhouse, 1868



Union & IR / Siskowit Mine: 1844-1855

Historic Period: Industrial Mining

Hoist House, Minong Mine (1874-1885)



Cooper Collection, ISRO Archives

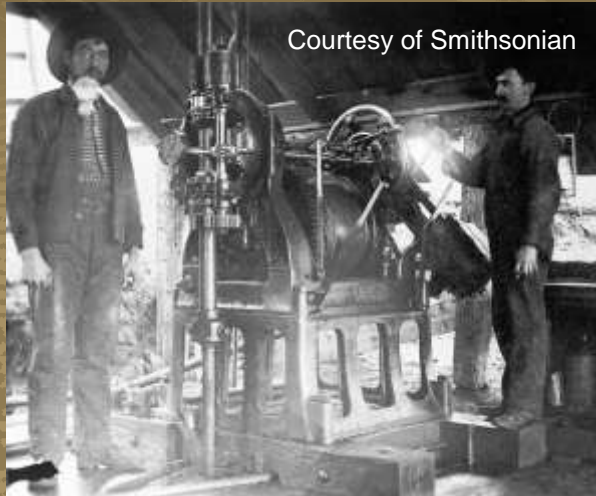


Steam Hoist, Island Mine (1873-1875)



Wagon Road, Island Mine

Historic Period: Industrial Mining



Courtesy of Smithsonian

Wendigo Copper Co. Drill Operation



A.C. Lane Collection, ISRO Archives

Wendigo Town Site

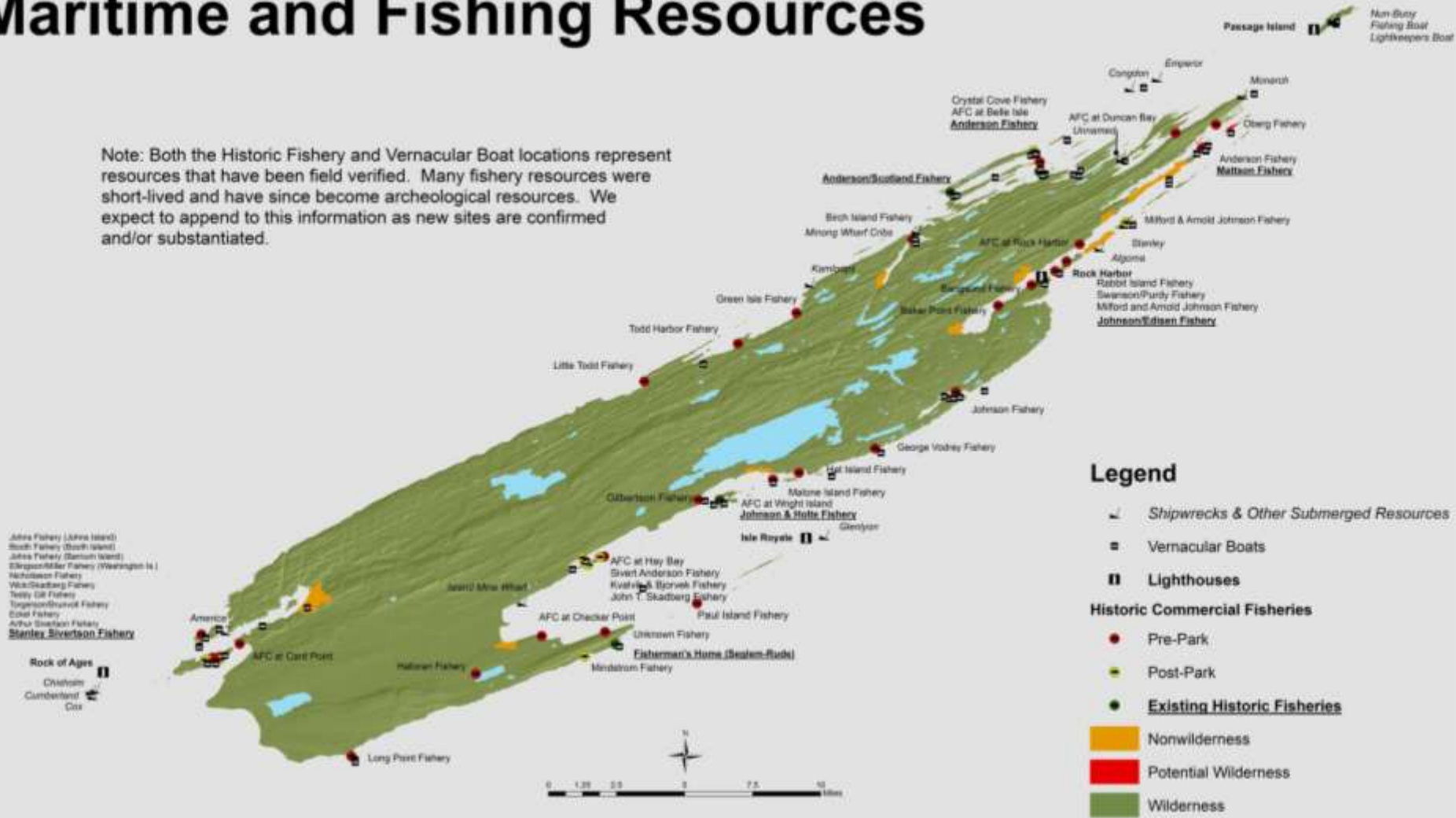


Drilling Station

Wendigo Copper Company: 1889 -1892

Maritime and Fishing Resources

Note: Both the Historic Fishery and Vernacular Boat locations represent resources that have been field verified. Many fishery resources were short-lived and have since become archeological resources. We expect to append to this information as new sites are confirmed and/or substantiated.



Maritime History: Commercial Fisheries



A.C. Lane Collection, ISRO Archives

Chippewa Harbor Fishery, Ca. 1892



Fisherman's Home



Sivertson Fishery



Booth Fishery

Wolbrink Appraisal Photos, SRO Archives

Maritime History: Commercial Fisheries

Mattson Fishery: Tobin Harbor

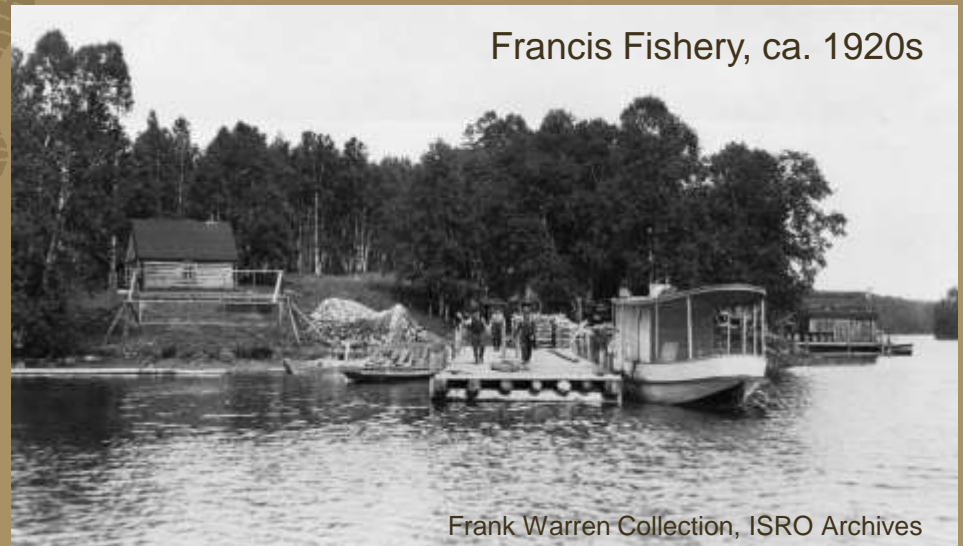
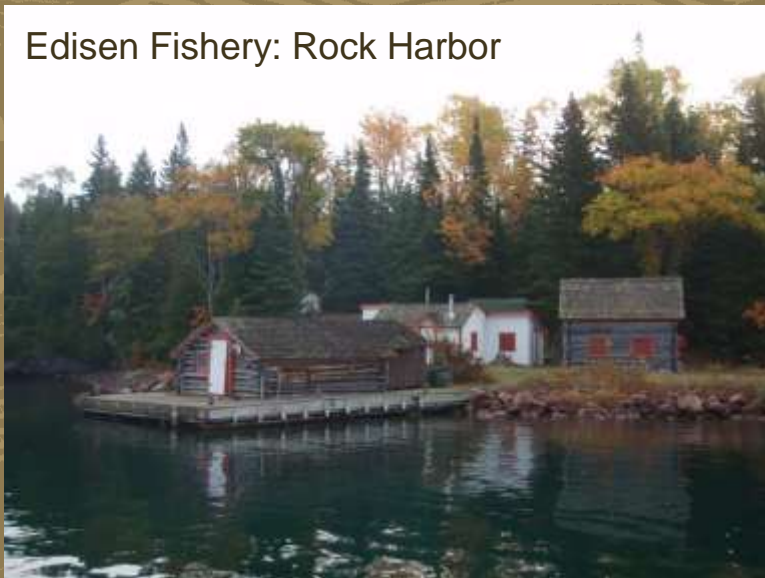


Farmer Collection, ISRO Archives



Mattson Fishery, 2013

Edisen Fishery: Rock Harbor



Francis Fishery, ca. 1920s

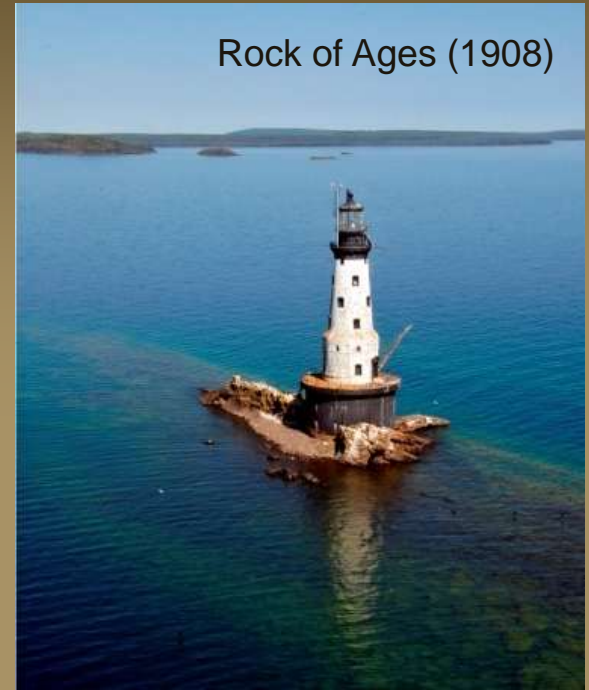
Frank Warren Collection, ISRO Archives

Maritime History: Lighthouses

Rock Harbor Light (1855)



Rock of Ages (1908)



Passage Island (1882)



Isle Royale Light (1875)

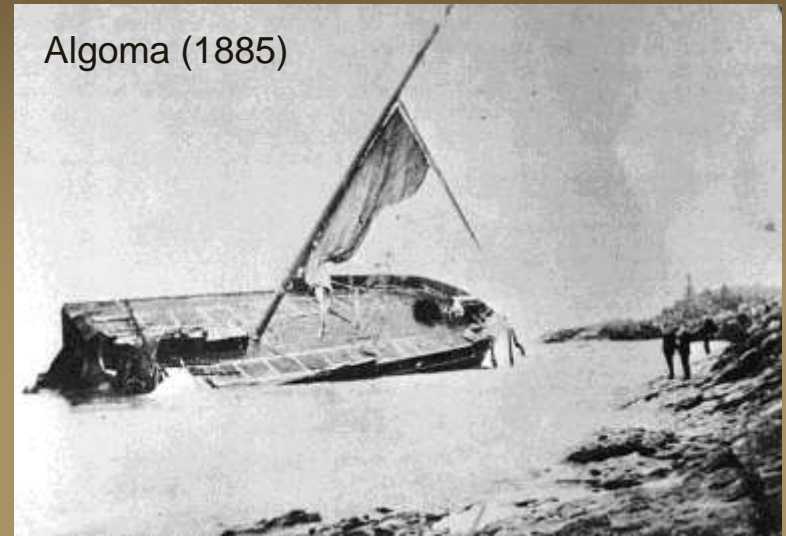


Maritime History: Shipwrecks

George M. Cox
(1933)



Algoma (1885)



Glenlyon (1924)



Maritime History: Shipwrecks

S.S. America (1928)



Frank Warren Collection, ISRO Archives

Frank Warren Collection, ISRO Archives



Maritime History: Vernacular Boats



Herring Skiffs: Sivertson Fishery

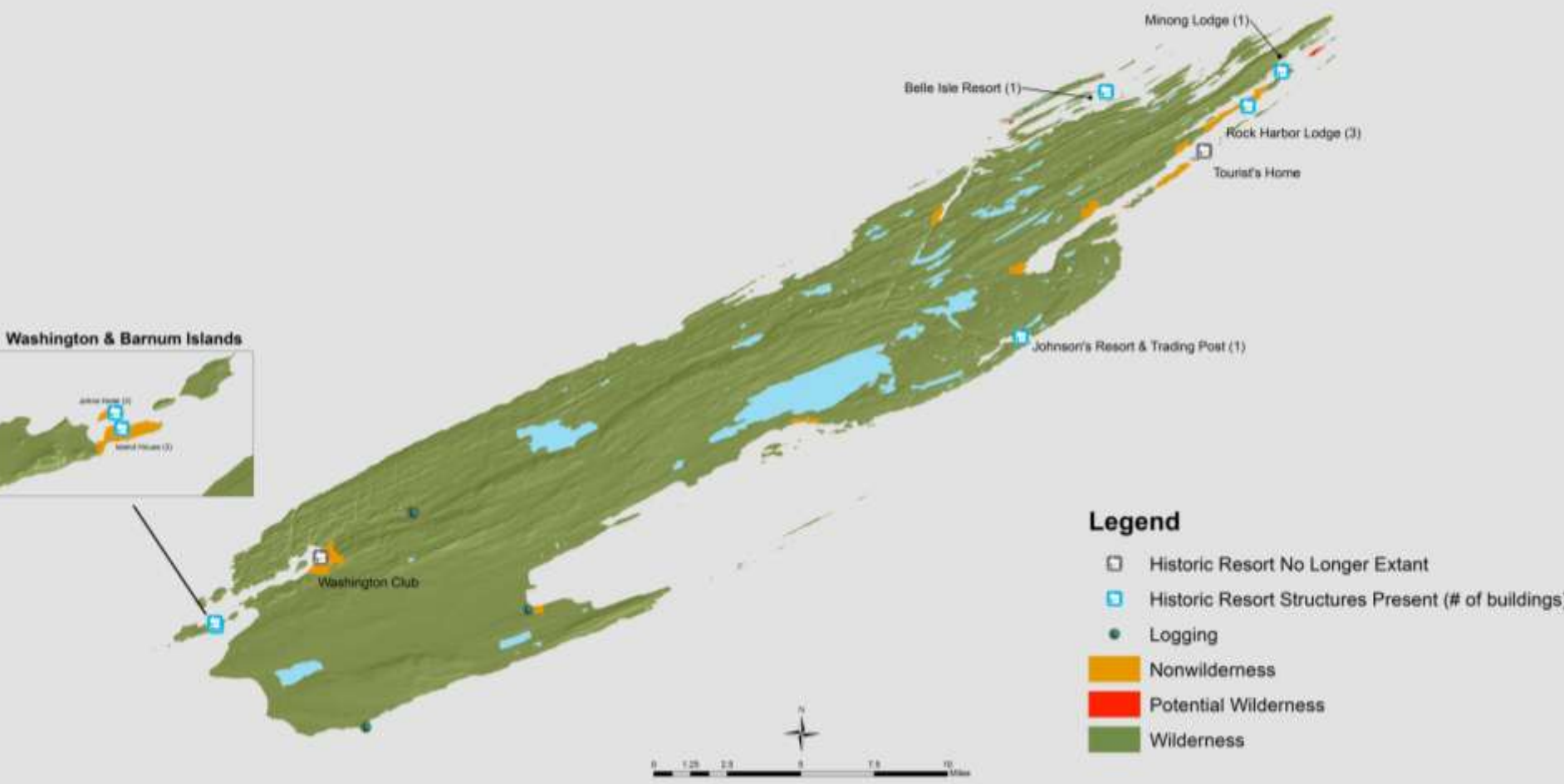


Skipper Sam: Holte Fishery



TERN – Holte & Edisen fisheries

Historic Resorts and Logging



Recreation: Historic Resorts



Johns Family Collection, ISRO Archives



Singer Resort Cottage –
Washington Island



Johns
Hotel



Wolbrink Appraisal Photos, ISRO Archives

Recreation: Historic Resorts



Wolbrink Appraisal Photos, ISRO Archives

Minong Resort: Tobin Harbor



Belle Isle Resort



Wolbrink Appraisal Photos, ISRO Archives

Logging



ONE MILE of pulpwood
G. W. Mead Company on Siskiwit Bay, 1935

Chippewa Cedar and Spruce Company
Long Point, ca. 1910s



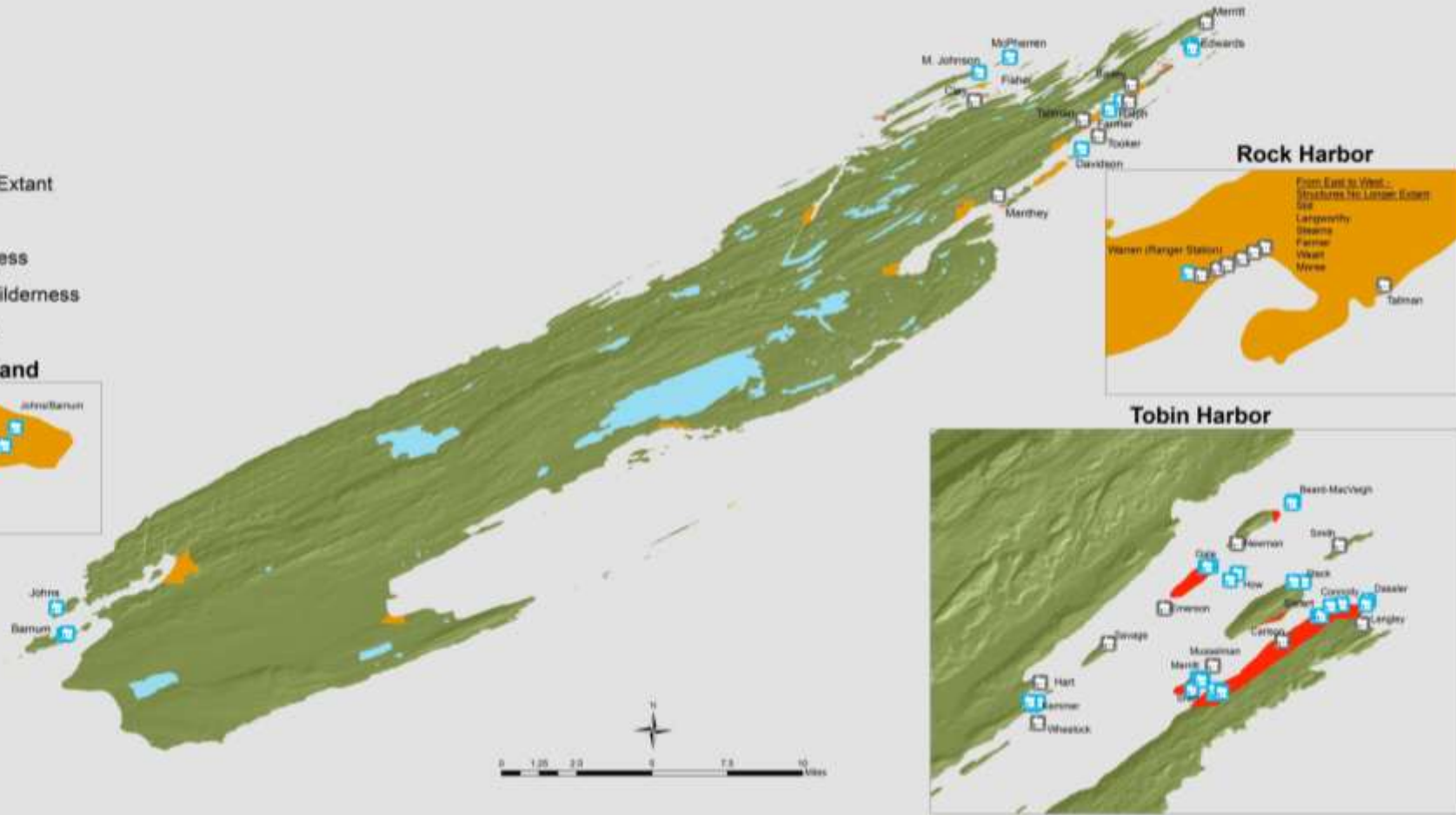
Courtesy of MNHS

Historic Recreational Summer Cabins

Legend

-  No Longer Extant
-  Present
-  Nonwilderness
-  Potential Wilderness
-  Wilderness

Barnum Island



Rock Harbor



Tobin Harbor



Recreation History: Summer Cottages/Camps



Wolbrink Appraisal Photos, ISRO Archives

Savage Camp – Tobin Harbor



How Camp – Tobin Harbor



Connolly Camp– Tobin Harbor

Recreation History: Summer Cottages/Camps



Davidson Camp – Rock Harbor



Francis Andrews Camp – Barnum Island

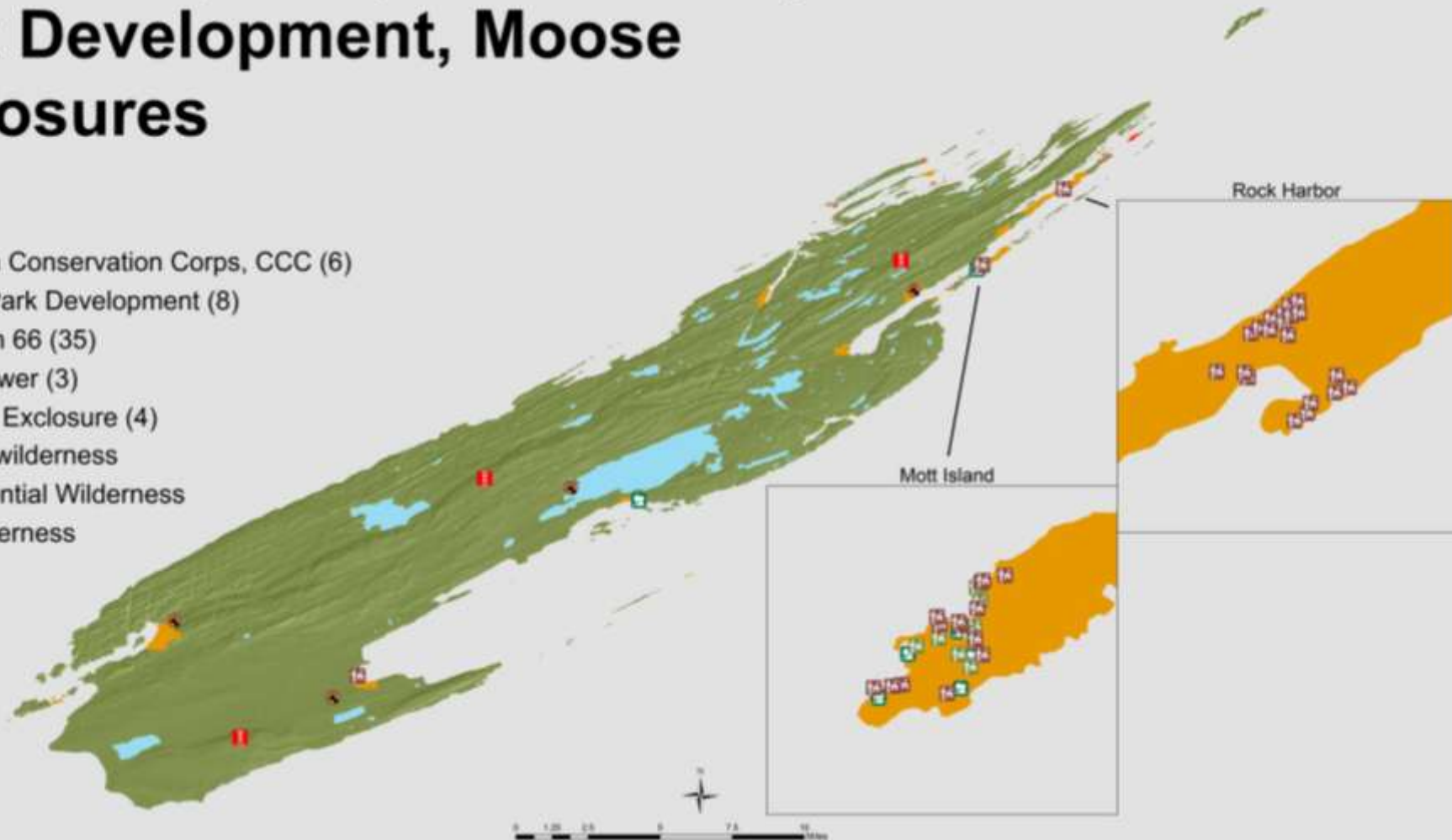


Ray Cottage – Barnum Island

Mission 66, CCC, Fire Towers, Park Development, Moose Exlosures

Legend

-  Civilian Conservation Corps, CCC (6)
-  Early Park Development (8)
-  Mission 66 (35)
-  Fire Tower (3)
-  Moose Exclosure (4)
-  Nonwilderness
-  Potential Wilderness
-  Wilderness



Historic Park Development



Ojibway Fire Tower: Mission 66



Siskiwit River Bridge: Mission 66

Admin. Photo Collection, ISRO Archives



Ishpeming Fire Tower: Mission 66

Historic Park Development: Rock Harbor Lodge



Historic Park Development: Mott Island



Admin. Photo Collection, ISRO Archives



Pump House: CCC

Admin. Photo Collection,
ISRO Archives

NPS Administrative Use
CCC / Mission 66



Isle Royale CRMP: Preliminary Draft Alternative Concepts

- Actions Common to All
- No Action Alternative
- Alternative A: Maintains a minimal level of resources representing the rich history of human interaction with Isle Royale.
- Alternative B: Preserve Wide Range of CR and Expand Visitor access through Partnerships
- Alternative C: Maritime – Fisheries Preservation Emphasis
- Alternative D: Archeological Resource Emphasis



Isle Royale CRMP

Actions Common to All

All preliminary alternatives share some actions in common. These common actions set the ground work for decision-making. They prescribe a minimum, consistent level of management that acknowledges Isle Royale's fundamental human/nature connection, are consistent with law and policy, and aid in retaining the island's special wilderness character.

Isle Royale CRMP:

No Action Alternative



- The no-action alternative, represents current management activities, planning, and practices concerning cultural resources on Isle Royale.
- Includes all actions outlined in “Actions Common to all Preliminary Alternative Concepts.”
- Places the National Park Service in a mostly reactive role, responding to resource damage, issues, and concerns as they arise.

Isle Royale CRMP: ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT A



This alternative maintains a nominal level of resources representing the rich history of human interaction with Isle Royale. Of the action alternatives, this option preserves the fewest number of historic properties.

Isle Royale CRMP: **ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT B**



Emphasize the development of a vibrant program of partnerships intended to help the National Park Service preserve a variety of historic properties reflecting the entire scope of human history at Isle Royale.

Isle Royale CRMP:

ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT C

Focus on the preservation and active interpretation of the maritime resources of Isle Royale, which are resources associated with fish, fishing, and maritime travel and technology, and the traditional knowledge of those resources.



Farmer Collection, ISRO Archives



Emphasizes the park's archeological resources, which involves a significant increase in archeological inventory. Research priority given to the island's 4,500-plus years of precontact and historic copper mining and fishing, with attention to related sites and landscapes where documentation has been limited in respect to more recent island histories .

Isle Royale FOUNDATION DOCUMENT

- Every unit within the national park system is required to prepare a formal statement that defines the purpose of designation and existence. This statement is the primary component of a foundation document that provides fundamental guidance for planning and management decisions necessary to meet the core mission of that park unit.
- In addition to purpose, the foundation document clearly articulates the significance, primary interpretive themes, fundamental resources and values, and special mandates and administrative commitments of a park unit, as well as the legal and policy requirements for administration and resource protection that factor into management decisions.

Isle Royale FOUNDATION DOCUMENT

- Much like a “park constitution”, this document is especially important as it provides a relatively straight forward means of communicating these core elements of each park unit with members of the public, stakeholders and park staff. The process of developing a foundation document provides an opportunity to succinctly organize, clarify and provide focus on the most important attributes of a park and helps identify and determine necessary future planning efforts.
- Please see related poster, which presents draft statements for Park Purpose, Park Significance and Fundamental Resources and Values

Isle Royale CRMP: Public Involvement

COMMENTS DUE DECEMBER 4TH

Planning Activity	Approximate Time Frame	Public Involvement Opportunities
Public Scoping – identify concerns, expectations, and values related to the park and to the draft alternative concepts.	November - December 2013	Review newsletter and send us your ideas and concerns using the response form or via the website
Develop alternatives and prepare draft cultural resource management plan/environmental impact statement	Late 2013 – Fall 2014	
Release draft cultural resource management plan /environmental impact statement to the public	Late 2014	Review document and voice your ideas and concerns
Review and analyze public comments, and revise draft document	Mid to late 2015	
Implementation of Approved Plan	2016 and beyond	Work with park staff to implement the approved plan